EXHIBIT A - TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS

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- 1) Provide the following information regarding the proposed network data: 17 pm 3 43
 - a) Geographic area proposed i.e., cities

CenturyTel Solutions, LLC ("CTS" or "Applicant") proposes to provide facilities-based and resold local exchange throughout the entire State of Tennessee.

Initially, the geographic area to be served by the Applicant is identical to the exchange area served by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), which includes, but is not limited to, the cities of Jackson, Memphis and Knoxville.



EXHIBIT B - FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS

1) Provide the sources of funds to meet the capital budget.

The Applicant will rely upon the substantial financial resources of its parent company, CenturyTel, Inc. ("CTI") to provide the initial capital investment and to fund operating costs to meet the capital budget.

2) Capital Costs for the three years including the following:

a) Equipment to be deployed.

Because CTS' business plan is to initially provide resold service, its provision of services, at least initially, will be relegated to use of unbundled network elements (UNEs). Accordingly, CTS has not yet determined the type of equipment that will ultimately be deployed.

b) Cost of equipment, network, switches, and unbundled network elements.

As indicated in the immediately preceding response, because CTS initially intends to provide resold services, it has not yet determined the cost of equipment and its proposed network. CTS will provide the Authority with such information once it becomes available. Additionally, CTS cannot finalize its cost estimates for use of UNEs at this time because it has not completed its interconnection negotiations with the underlying carrier(s). Once CTS has finalized its interconnection negotiations, it will provide the Authority with costs estimates for UNEs.

3) Please quantify amounts included in any of the financial statements and projections relating to reciprocal compensation for terminating ISP traffic.

Reciprocal compensation for terminating ISP traffic is not separately tracked or accounted for by CTI. Accordingly, income, if any, received from reciprocal compensation for terminating ISP traffic may not be quantified.

EXHIBIT B - FINANCIAL QUALIFICATIONS (Con't)

4) TCA §65-4-125 amendment states that by September 1, 2000, all telecommunications service providers subject to the control and jurisdiction of the authority, except those owners or operators of public telephone service who pay annual inspection and supervision fees pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, §65-4-301(b), or any telecommunications service provider that owns and operates equipment facilities in Tennessee with a value of more than five million dollars (\$5,000,000), shall file with the authority a corporate surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of twenty thousand (\$20,000) to secure the payment of any monetary sanction imposed in any enforcement proceeding, brought under this title or the Consumer Telemarketing Protection Act of 19990, by or on behalf of the authority, Provide a statement outlining the Applicant's intent to abide by TCA § 65-4-125 and provide a corporate surety bond by September 1, 2000 if applicable.

Applicant will adhere to the requirements embodied in TCA §64-4-125 and will file, if applicable, a surety bond with the Authority by September 1, 2000.

EXHIBIT C - NUMBERING ISSUES

1) When and in what NPA do you expect to establish your service footprint?

CTS currently expects to establish its service footprint in Tennessee in the Jackson, Memphis and Knoxville NPAs.

2) Will the company sequentially assign telephone numbers within NXXs?

As a general rule, the Applicant will sequentially assign telephone numbers within NXXs.

3) What measures does the company intend to take to conserve Tennessee numbering resources?

CTS will attempt to conserve limited numbering resources by utilizing existing telephone numbers through number portability, and by reserving only those numbers that it determines are necessary on the basis of its estimated customer base.

4) When ordering new NXXs for growth, what percentage fill of an existing NXX does the company use to determine when a request for a new NXX will be initiated?

The percentage of fill in an existing NXX that CTS will use as an indication that new NXXs are needed for growth is yet to be determined and will be based upon the rate of growth and use of existing and new telephone numbers.

EXHIBIT D - TENNESSEE SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL ISSUES

1) How does the company intend to comply with TCA §65-21-114? In its description, please explain technically how the company will not bill for countywide calls within Tennessee.

CTS will follow industry standard guidelines in complying with the toll-free countywide calling requirement in TCA §65-21-114. CTS will build its database and program its switches in such a manner that county identification information may be determined, and that in Tennessee, countywide calls will not be assessed a toll charge.

2) Is the company aware of the Tennessee County Wide Calling database maintained by BellSouth and the procedures to enter your telephone numbers on the database?

CTS is generally aware of the Tennessee County Wide Calling database and as part of the interconnection implementation process, CTS will coordinate with BellSouth to identify and follow applicable procedures for entry of CTS' telephone numbers in BellSouth's Tennessee County Wide Calling database.

3) Is the company aware of the MAC database maintained by BellSouth and the procedures to enter your telephone numbers on the database?

Representatives at BellSouth have indicated that there is no separate database for MAC calling.

4) Please provide the name and telephone number of an employee of your company that will be responsible to work with the TRA on resolving customer complaints.

Phyllis Mayo will be the person responsible to work with the TRA on resolving customer complaints. Ms. Mayo may be reached at (800) 824-2877.

Does the company intend to telemarket its services in Tennessee? If yes, is the company aware of the telemarketing statutes and regulations found in TCA § 65-4-401 et seq. and Chapter 1220-4-11?

CTS intends to use telemarketing as a marketing tool for its provision of services. CTS is aware of the telemarketing statutes and regulations found in TCA §65-4-401 et seq. and Chapter 1220-4-11. CTS will comply with these statutes and regulations as required.

EXHIBIT A Technical Qualifications

EXHIBIT B Financial Qualifications

EXHIBIT C Numbering Issues

EXHIBIT D Tennessee Specific Operational Issues